(c) if so, what has been the reaction of the US Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Pakistan had moved the bulk of her troops close to the India-Pakistan border since end November, 1986. However, the situation has been defused following the official level talks between the two countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Adult films on T.V. during mid-night

1066. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCATING) be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to telecast adult films on T.V. during midnight; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose is to show films of high quality and aesthetic value which may *inter alia* deal with issues and perceptions which are adult in nature.

AIDS Research by Indian Scientist in United States

1067. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" of 22nd January, 1987 wherein it has been stated that an Indian Scientist working in the United States has been honoured for his significant contribution to AIDS Research; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what is the number of Indian Scientists working abroad at present;

(c) whether the brain drain has not yet been minimised by Government; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to stop brain drain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

The details of the research work carried out by the Indian scientist are however, not available.

(b) It has not been possible to maintain a list of Indian Science and Technology Personnel going abroad. Hence, exact figures are not available.

(c) and (d) A number of measures have been taken to attract Indian Scientists and Technologists settled abroad to come back to this country. Some of these are:

—The scheme of flexible complementing/merit promotion is being introduced in all the scientific departments/organisations

—Programmes have been launched through which core group of scientists are created in the country with all the necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.

—Special schemes are being implemented to provide assistance to scientists for attending international conferences besides enabling younger scientists to attend specialised training programmes outside India.

—There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and

technologists under the scheme of Scientists' Pool. A provision has also been made for the creation of super-numerary posts.

—New scientific departments/ organisations such as Departments of Bio-technology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non Conventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics have been set up and some of these are in high technology areas. These are likely to provide exciting job opportunities for the scientists, technologists and doctors.

—The financial allocation for science and technology activities have been increased substantially over the successive Five Year Plans.

—Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve the organisational efficiency and working conditions of scientists.

Issuing of licences for opening of branches of banks in tribal areas

1068. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that priority is accorded to the remote tribal areas, while issuing licences for opening of new branches of banks by the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, how many such branches have been licensed to be opened in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar and north eastern States and if not, what are the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether any assessment has been made of the financial resource need of these tribal areas and how are they intended to be covered by the branches of commercial banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, Hilly and Tribal areas are given special consideration and expansion in such areas are allowed on a comparatively liberal basis by relaxing the norms prescribed in the Policy for giving licences against identified centres in such areas.

(b) Under the current Policy RBI has issued 172, 129 and 17 licences for opening branches in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar respectively. RBI has also issued 5, 18, 24 and 34 licences for opening branches in tribal areas of North Eastern States viz. Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura respectively.

(c) No specific study has been undertaken to assess the financial resources need of the tribal areas. The objective of the current Branch Licensing Policy is to spread banking facilities to the deficit rural areas specially where identifiable spatial gaps exist.

Bank robberies

1069. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of robberies in banks in certain parts of the country are on the increase; and

(b) if so, what preventive, precautionary and remedial measures do Government propose to undertake to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bank robberies/dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security enviornment in the locality. Banks, however, have been taking steps to improve their security arrangements so as to offer as little inducement to miscreants to rob banks and also to deter them. As this is a